

INFORMATION REPORT

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The following Germans are leading in the field of silicon research in the Russian Zone:

1. Dr. Richard Mueller, chief of the silicon department of the Heyden chemical factory in Dresden-Radebeul, has been engaged in silicon research since 1932. He has recently perfected a silicon compound which is to be used as a liquid bandage for wounds. The paste is spread over the open wound, where it dries and seals the wound but remains porous enough to admit the necessary air. It is waterproof and elastic. This compound is said to be based on inorganic silicon compounds of a colloidal nature. Dr. Mueller has tested it and found it ready for production. In order to continue his research Dr. Mueller contacted a Russian bureau in Berlin-Weissenensee, asking for financial support. He did not reveal his process and new ideas to the Russians because he feared that he might be deported to Russia. Since he was rather vague, the Russians turned down his plea for support. Mueller's research is aimed at the synthesis of silicon out of organic halides compounds parallel to that of Rochow of General Electric. He has been experimenting with inorganic silicon compounds similar to Rochow's but with different results. Mueller himself is living under difficult circumstances claiming that he does not make enough money to provide himself with a decent meal.

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2. Dr. Leibniz is with the firm Springer & Moeller, Leipzig-Leutzsch, Franz Fleming Strasse 15. He is also technical director of the Association of People-owned Factories "Plasta". He is a member of the German Economic Commission and through his good connections has been able to obtain a yearly subvention of 100,000 DM for research on silicones. He is a lacquer specialist and is trying to develop a lacquer based on the Rochow synthesis and on the classical method established by Grignard about 1900. The plant of Springer & Moeller, at which Leibniz is working, contains a Russian lacquer laboratory which, like so many of its kind, is being dissolved, and Leibniz is looking forward to taking over and using it for his own purposes.

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CLASSIFICATION

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This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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3. Dr. Grimm and Dr. Moll, rubber specialists, are employed at the Buna Werke in Schkopau. Dr. Moll is chief chemist there.\* Both have acquired some experience on silicon research on a small scale. Their aim is to produce, with the help of silicon, crude rubber which can withstand extremely low temperatures, below minus 60 degrees centigrade, and which can also withstand changes from arctic to tropical climates.

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~~Comment:~~ Dr. Grimm has not been previously listed among the employees of the Buna Werke.

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